1947

N 1132

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO.

FILE NO. 6 F.O./141/1151

NAME OF FILE ARAB REFUGEES

(NO MINUTES TO BE WRITTEN HERE)

CLOSED UNTIL 1978

LAST YEAR'S FILE NO. 1036

NEXT YEAR'S FILE NO.

ARAB REFUGEES.

Registry No. 6/9/47

DESPATCHED
1730 20/10 | TK

20th October, 1947.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

*Draft.*

telegram

TO: FOREIGN OFFICE

NO. 2042

EN CLAIR.

My ~~immediate~~ telegram No. 1870 / of 14th September: Moslem refugees in Europe_/.

Grateful for urgent reply.

Copy to:
Visa Section - ref. their V/8/161/16580 of 11.9.47.

B/U in 15 days.

H. of C.

RWB/CM.
20.10.47.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

BRITISH EMBASSY CAIRO

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ACTION COMPLETED

/JMK

EN CLAIR TELEGRAM. (5) COPY NO. ...

FROM: CAIRO DESPD: 17.20 hrs. 20.10.47.

TO: FOREIGN OFFICE

NO: 2042 DATED: 20.10.47.

My telegram No. 1870 / of 14th September: Moslem refugees in Europe./

Grateful for urgent reply.

BOWKER.

Copy to Visa Section.

Registry No. 6/9/47

Draft.

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
~~Confidential.~~
~~Restricted.~~
Open.

telegram

TO: FOREIGN OFFICE

NO. 1964

EN CLAIR.

3rd October, 1947.

My telegram No. 1870 /of 14th September : Moslem Refugees in Europe/.

Are you now in a position to reply?

GRMD. 3/10.

DESPATCHED
1945 3/X

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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RWB/CM.
3.10.47.

PM

EN CLAIR TELEGRAM (4) Copy No. (

From: CAIRO Despd: 1945 hrs, 3.10.47

To : FOREIGN OFFICE

No : 1964 Dated: 3.10.47

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

My telegram No. 1870 (of 14th September : . Moslem Refugees in Europe).

2. Are you now in a position to reply?

BOWKER

NOT DISTRIBUTED

4/10

Arab Refugees.

W 6/7/47.

"Le Journal D'Egypte": 10th. September 1947.

BRITISH EMBASSY CAIRO
17 SEP 1947
RECEIVED

# L'AIDE DE S.M. LE ROI FAROUK AUX REFUGIES MUSULMANS D'EUROPE

Le départ de la vedette «Al Amir Farouk», qui était fixé au 11 Septembre, a été remis au 16 de ce mois. Cette vedette se rendra à Benghazi où elle déchargera les vivres que Sa Majesté le Roi a bien voulu envoyer à titre d'aide aux habitants de la Cyrénaïque.

Elle se rendra ensuite à Naples où le Comité Supérieur de Secours aux réfugiés musulmans se chargera de la distribution de 2.000 colis aux musulmans se trouvant en Italie. S.S. le Nabil Amr Ibrahim, président de ce Comité, qui se trouve actuellement à Lausanne, a été informé de la date de l'arrivée de la vedette à Naples, pour que la distribution des colis se fasse sous sa surveillance.

De Naples, la vedette se rendra à Gênes pour remettre au Comité International de la Croix Rouge 5.000 colis destinés aux musulmans réfugiés en Allemagne, en Autriche, en Suisse et en France.

On voit, sur nos photos, S.E. Kamel Abdel Rehim bey, sous-secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires Etrangères, inspectant hier l'établissement où les colis sont préparés. En haut, les colis sont en train d'être confectionnés. En bas, quelques colis prêts à être expédiés.

*(Photos « Journal d'Egypte »)*

Mr. Baxter 17/9

See tel. to F.O. x RB 17/9.

ACTION COMPLETED
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DESPATCHED
1030 1419 TK

14th September, 1947.

Registry No. 6/7/47

Arab Refugees

IMMEDIATE.

*Draft.* telegram to F. O. No. 1870

Cypher.

O.T.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Copy to Visa Section

Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs have applied to Visa Section for an entry visa into Germany for Mohammed Abdel Amin Mostafa and Saleh Mohammed Abu Rokaik, members of the Committee of Aid to Distressed Moslems in Europe and travelling on an official mission.

2. This committee was recently formed under presidency of Nabil Amr Ibrahim. King Farouk is personally interested in this relief work which clearly has propaganda value for him. Food parcels are being prepared and will be shipped on Egyptian patrol vessel "Amira Fawzia" which will sail with them to Naples for distribution to distressed Moslems in Italy, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and France. Vessel is due to sail on 16th September.

3. Rokaik is understood to be prominent member of Moslem Brethren Society, which as you know is violently anti-British.

4. Please instruct whether Visas for British Zone of Germany may be issued to above-named applicants.

GLMD. 13/9.

MR. RAVENSDALE.
H. of C.

Mr. Bailey a.a.

RWB/CM.
13/9.47

Mr. Bailey 15/9
N. Henderson informed by phone 15/9.

ACTION COMPLETED

/CM. CYPHER TELEGRAM. (8) Copy No.

FROM : CAIRO. DESPD: 1030 hrs. 14.9.47.

TO : FOREIGN OFFICE.

NO. : 1870 OTP. DATED: 14.9.47.

---

IMMEDIATE.

Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs have applied to Visa Section for an entry visa into Germany for Mohammed Abdel Amin Mostafa and Saleh Mohammed Abu Rokaik, members of the Committee of Aid to Distressed Moslems in Europe and travelling on an official mission.

2. This committee was recently formed under presidency of Nabil Amr Ibrahim. King Farouk is personally interested in this relief work which clearly has propaganda value for him. Food parcels are being prepared and will be shipped on Egyptian patrol vessel "Amira Fawzia" which will sail with them to Naples for distribution to distressed Moslems in Italy, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and France. Vessel is due to sail on 16th September.

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BOWKER.

Copy to: Visa Section.

V 15/9

Arab Refugees

Enter. 6/6/47

VISA SECTION,
British Embassy,
Cairo.

V/8/161/16580.

11th September, 1947.

SEP 1947 RECEIVED

Dear Bailey

-/5.

Reference my V/8/159 dated 9th September, 1947.

I enclose a Note Verbale received this morning from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerning visas for GERMANY in respect of two members of the "Haute Commission pour l'Aide des Musulmans Sinistrés de l'Europe".

2. ROKAIK is, according to my lists, a prominent member of the Ikwan, and therefore it is doubtful in any case whether you would wish us to grant him visa facilities.

3. Apart from this, however, I feel that this is a case with which I am not competent to deal, and which perhaps your Department will decide to take up with the Foreign Office.

4. The only instructions which I have covering Egyptians desiring to visit Germany is in respect of a very limited Businessmens Quota, and these two persons definitely do not fall into that category.

5. Had the two applicants not been sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, they would have been instructed by us to apply through the "regular channels" which are as follows:-

(a) Written application is made to A.G.2 (b) M.E.F. on forms specially supplied by that branch;

(b) A.G.2 (b) refer the application to the American Embassy, Rome, who, for some reason or other, handle these cases.

(c) American Embassy, Rome, refer the application to the Control Commission who, in due course, approve or refuse permission to grant visas.

N.B. This method takes from five to six months as a rule, and, more often than not, no reply is ever received!

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fkm 11/9

ACTION COMPLETED

R.W. BAILEY, ESQ.,
British Embassy,
CAIRO.

Continued over .....

Mr Bailey 12/9 Drop tel to F.O. copied to Visa Section & MS.
Henderson informed by phone.

B up in 10 days

11/9 B up in 7 days. PB 25/9 15/9

6. In view of the two applications in question being sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I feel that the afore-mentioned method is hardly a tactful one to suggest. But, as far as I am aware, there is no alternative, unless your Department are prepared to make these applications the subject of a special request to the Foreign Office.

7. The applicants have been informed that the matter is under consideration and they have been asked to return to this office in a couple of days' time.

8. After you have considered this - and with particular reference to my paragraph 2 - will you, please telephone me, so that, when they call, I shall know what answer to give to these two individuals.

Yours Ever

R. Alvarez

Encl: 1.

16580
[6/6/47]

MINISTÈRE
DES
AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

DÉPARTEMENT CONSULAIRE

No. 438

# NOTE

Le Ministère Royal des Affaires Etrangères présente ses compliments à l'Ambassade de Grande Bretagne et la prie de bien vouloir donner les instructions nécessaires en vue d'accorder un visa d'entrée à M. Mohamed Abdel Aziz Mostafa, membre de la Haute Commission pour l'Aide des Musulmans Sinistrés de l'Europe qui doit se rendre en Allemagne en mission officielle.

Le Ministère Royal en remercie vivement à l'avance l'Ambassade et saisit cette occasion pour lui renouveler les assurances de sa haute considération.

*Le Caire, le* 10 septembre *1947.*

A l'Ambassade de Grande Bretagne

LE CAIRE

Imp. Nationale 7942 A, 1946-3000 ex.

[6/6/47]

MINISTÈRE
DES
AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

DÉPARTEMENT CONSULAIRE

No. 437

# NOTE

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Le Ministère Royal en remercie vivement à l'avance l'Ambassade et saisit cette occasion pour lui renouveler les assurances de sa haute considération.

*Le Caire, le* 9 septembre 1946. 7

A l'Ambassade de Grande Bretagne

LE CAIRE

Imp. Nationale 7942 A, 1946-3000 ex.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

This letter arose out of a visit here from an Egyptian schoolmaster who had applied for a visa for Palestine from Visa Section and who asked to see me saying that Visa Section had told him to call here. I thought this most improbable but before sending him away I checked up with Mr. Henderson.

RB 12/9

Mr. Ravensdale to see
+ X

Mr. Ravensdale 16/9

fk 19/9

INDEX
ACTION COMPLETED

Arab: Refugees.

6/5/47

VISA SECTION,
British Embassy,
Cairo.

V/8/159.

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
12 SEP 1947
RECEIVED

9th September, 1947.

Dear Bailey,

Reference our telephone conversation of this morning:- As we never on any account refer visa applicants to your Department, I suggest, in order to eliminate annoyance and waste of your time, that you simply refuse to interview persons claiming they have been "sent" by this Section.

We occasionally notify you (usually by telephone) for Security reasons of applications in respect of prominent individuals. Should the unlikely occasion arise where it was desirable for you or Ravensdale to personally interview an applicant, I would of course consult you in advance.

Yours ever,

R. Henderson

HEAD OF VISA SECTION

R.W. BAILEY, ESQ.,
British Embassy,
Cairo.

next paper - 16

Mr Bailey n/q
Minute

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ACTION COMPLETED

14/9

Registry No. 6/2/47

10 March, 1947.

Despatched xxxxxx

*Draft* Despatch

to

FOREIGN OFFICE.

~~Telegram~~

No.: 200.

SENT 12 MAR 1947

H. of C.

~~H. E.~~

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

WAS/EMR.
8.3.47.

With reference to correspondence ending with your despatch No.74 (N718/82/38) of February 4th, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a report received from an agent regarding the alleged formation of an International Islamic Committee for aiding Moslem refugees in Europe and preventing their being sent back to Russia and satellite countries of Russia.

2. Sayed El Ghommi, wrongly entitled the "Mufti of Iran" in this report, is a Persian ʿAalim who came to Egypt about a year ago in order, according to his own account, to promote ~~the~~ union ~~of the~~ between Sunnis and Shias. —— During his stay here he has expressed views very friendly to Great Britain.

3. It will be noticed that according to this report the Palace is at the back of this alleged movement.

I have the honour etc. etc.

(Sgd.) RONALD CAMPBELL

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BRITISH EMBASSY,

CAIRO.

10th March, 1947.

WAS/DMD
No. 200
(6/2/47)

Sir,

With reference to correspondence ending with your despatch No. 74 (N 718/82/38) of February 4th, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a report received from an agent regarding the alleged formation of an International Islamic Committee for aiding Moslem refugees in Europe and preventing their being sent back to Russia and satellite countries of Russia.

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3. It will be noticed that according to this report the Palace is at the back of this alleged movement.

I have the honour to be
With the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

(Sgd.) RONALD CAMPBELL

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

I suggest the attached report by O. Man might be kept for reference on this file. It lends some colour to Mr. Walisiak's assertion that he was getting the Arab League interested in the question of these Problem refugees in Europe.

RB 7/3

O.M. We had better send a copy to the F.O. with ref draft attached

RGB
March 7

~~R. Baily~~

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Arab Refugees.

Mr. Ramsdale

Enter:

6/4/47

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
10 MAR 1947
RECEIVED

Subject:- SAYED EL GHOMMI - The Mufti of Iran.

4/29

On Saturday, 1.3.47., SAYED EL GHOMMI telephoned me - three times - he eventually left the message that he wished to see me urgently. I arrived at his residence at 1700 hours - he was in conference with MOHAMED ALY ALLOUBA Pasha, and was not able to see me until 1810 hours. He apologised and explained that he wished for my advice on the following matter.

He has received a letter and an appointment card from KAMEL ABDEL RAHIM Bey, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (N.B. RAHIM was recently given the rank of Ambassador) The letter states that a new movement is to be inaugurated - "The Islamic Committee for the aiding ofMoslem European Refugees". The aim of this movement is to unite the Islamic countries in an endeavour to prevent the return to Russia, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, etc.etc. of the Moslem nationals of those countries, who are now scattered in Central Europe having been uprooted by the tide of war. The Islamic countries to facilitate the entry of those Moslem refugees to welcome them to and to shelter them in, the Islamic East - thus affording those Moslem minorities protection from oppression, persecution etc. Monies will be collected from all Islamic countries for this work.

The members of the Committee are:-

a. Egypt. ABDEL RAHMAN AZZAM Pasha. (Arab League).
MOHAMED ZAKI ALY Pasha. (Nationalist Party
MOHAMED ALY ALLOUBA Pasha.(Lib. Const.Party
MANSOUR FAHMY FAHMY Pasha. (Y.M.M.A.).

b. Saudi -Arabia. The Saudi-Arabian Minister in Egypt - Sheikh YUSSEF YASSIN.

c. Syria. The Syrian Minister in Egypt.

d. Iraq. Taksin el ASKARI -the Iraqian Minister in Egypt.

e. Afghanistan. MOHAMED SADEK EL MOGADADI. - Afghan Minister in Egypt.

f. Iran. Sheikh SAYED EL GHOMMI.

g. Yemen. H.E. SAYED ALY EL MOGAYED.

h. India. SAYED ALY JINNAH. (The Indian Moslem leader)

The Secretary of the movement is Ostaz ABDEL MONEM KHALLAF of the Arab League Headquarters. (N.B. KHALLAF is a member of Shebban el Muslameen - and known as being anti-British).

GHOMMI wished to have my views on this movement and lette -he had noticed that all the members were of diplomatic status except the chosen Iranian member - GHOMMI himself. I confirmed his views that this movement although from KAMEL ABDEL RAHIM Bey, seemed to orginally emanate from the Palace. The naming of GHOMMI in the place of MAHMOUD DJEM, the Iranian Ambassador to Egypt - is to cast insult - in view of the strained relations now exisiting between the Shah and King FAROUK. GHOMMI if accepting such nomination would be criticised and blamed for accepting the ignomy of the Iranian Ambassador - and this insult to Iran.

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GHOMMI on hearing my views - drafted a reply to KAMEL ABDEL RAHIM Bey - that he had decided to decline owing to pressure of work in his religious progressions. He suggested in the reply that MAHMOUD DJEM take his place - and terminated with the wishing of good luck to the new movement.

NB.

---

It does seem that this idea is from ABDINE - to cause embarrassment to the Russians and their satellites and to show the unity of Islam. In some ways it can be considered as an "opposing Moslem refugee problem" to the Zionist movement for the sheltering of Jewish refugees in Palestine.

---

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No. 6/3/47.

Arab Refugees.

Despatched M.

Draft

18/2 18 February 1947.

~~Telegram~~

H.M.E. etc. and with ref. to the Secretariat-General's Note No. 62 of 21st August 1946, have the honour to inform them that the Foreign Office, to whom the note was referred, have replied ~~to the effect~~ that it is understood that SALIM ABDEL RAHMAN EL HAG IBRAHIM has already returned to Palestine.

HME etc.

GRMD. 17/2.

Note to Secretariat General Arab League. Palais Bustan, Sh. el Bustan Cairo.

Copy to Jerusalem ref. 1036/10/46

W. Ravensdale

15/2

OM 10/7 Feb 15

Hoft.

Copy despatched to Jerusalem 17/2

SENT 29

18 FEB 1947

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RWB/DMD
6/3/47

His Majesty's Embassy present their compliments to the Secretariat General of the League of Arab States and, with reference to the Secretariat General's note No. 62 of 21st August 1946, have the honour to inform them that the Foreign Office, to whom the note was referred, have replied that it is understood that Salim Abdel Rahman El Hag Ibrahim has already returned to Palestine.

His Majesty's Embassy avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat General of the Arab League the assurance of their high consideration.

BRITISH EMBASSY,

CAIRO.

18th February, 1947.

Arab Refugees 6/3/47

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

4th February, 1947.

(E.12541/8035/31).

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
11 FEB 1947
RECEIVED

Dear Chancery,

1036/10/46
1036/12/46

Your letter No.1036/10/46 of the 18th December, about the repatriation to Palestine of Salim Abdulrahman el Haj Ibrahim.

We understand that el Haj Ibrahim has already returned to Palestine. The questions raised in your letter therefore do not need an answer.

Yours sincerely,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Bailey. 12/2/47

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Cairo.

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Arab Refugees

6/2/47.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

No. 74

4th February, 1947.

(N 718/82/38)

RESTRICTED

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
11 FEB 1947
RECEIVED

Sir,

A copy of Your Excellency's despatch No. 27 of the 13th January 1947, and of its enclosure, concerning Russian Moslem refugees in Europe, has been sent to the Control Office for Germany and Austria, with a request for information about these refugees, since nothing is known about them in this office.

2. I shall write to you again when I have received the information required, and in the meantime I would suggest that you make no reply to Mr. Walishah.

I am, with great truth and respect,
Sir,
Your Excellency's obedient Servant,
(For the Secretary of State)

RMAHankey.

Mr. Burlely 12/2
Mr. Ravensdale 11/2
O.M. Wed 7 Feb 13

His Excellency
Sir Ronald Campbell, G.C.M.G., C.B.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Cairo.

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Arab Refugees.

Registry No. 6/1/47

K 1411

13th January 1947.

Draft. Despatch.

A-E

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Scrivener's letter N 3976/8/38 of 27th March 1946, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter which was handed in to this Embassy by a certain Mr. YUSUF A. WALISHAH ORALGHERAI, who claims to be the representative in Egypt of the "National Committee of Russian Moslems." He stated that the headquarters of this Committee are in Istanbul, its President being DJAFER SEIDAHMET. Mr. WALISHAH explained to a member of my staff that of the hundreds of thousands of Moslems who had retreated into Germany from the

/Crimea

[1036/3/46]

F.O. No. 27.

Copy to Angora. Moscow. Copy of letter paper 6/1/47. and B.M.E.O.

Mr. Ravenscroft 11/1

Printed despatch to Angora No. 2 Dated 13/1

Printed despatch to Moscow No. 1 Dated 13/1

NP2.

WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN. NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

SENT 15 JAN 1947

SENT 15 JAN 1947

SENT 15 JAN 1947

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RZ 10/1

Crimea and the Caucasus with the German forces, most had died or disappeared. According to the Committee's information, there were now only some seven or eight thousand in the British and American zones of Germany, gathered in a number of camps. It was understood that there were now no longer under the care of UNRRA but that the people were being divided into small groups of fifty or so, possibly, be feared, with a view to returning them to Russia.

3. Mr. WALISHAH asserted that negotiations were at present proceeding with the Arab League with a view to these refugees settling in the Arab countries. It was for this reason that the Committee were anxious

/these

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No.

*Draft.*

these refugees should be kept together and not dispersed into small groups.

4. I have the honour to enquire what reply, if any, should be returned to Mr. WALISHAH.

5. ~~A copy~~ Copies of this despatch with enclosure being sent to His Majesty's Ambassadors at Angora and Moscow and to the B.M.E.O.

I etc.

(Sgd.) RONALD CAMPBELL

pro "C"

BRITISH EMBASSY,

CAIRO.

13th January, 1947.

RMB/JK.

No. 27.
(6/1/47)

Rad No2.
14/1

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Scrivener's letter N. 3976/8/38 of 27th March, 1946, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter which was handed in to this Embassy by a certain Mr. Yusuf A. Walishah Oralgherai, who claims to be the representative in Egypt of the "National Committee of Russian Moslems". He stated that the headquarters of this Committee are in Istanbul, its President being Djafer Seidahmet.

2. Mr. Walishah explained to a member of my staff that of the hundreds of thousands of Moslems who had retreated into Germany from the Crimea and the Caucasus with the German forces, most had died or disappeared. According to the Committee's information, there were now only some seven or eight thousand in the British and American zones of Germany, gathered in a number of camps. It was understood that these were now no longer under the care of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, but that the people were being divided into small groups of fifty or so, possibly, he feared, with a view to returning them to Russia.

3. Mr. Walishah asserted that negotiations were at present proceeding with the Arab League with a view to these refugees settling in the Arab countries. It was for this reason that the Committee were anxious these refugees should be kept together and not dispersed into small groups.

4. I have the honour to enquire what reply, if any, should be returned to Mr. Walishah.

5. Copies of this despatch with enclosure are being sent to His Majesty's Ambassadors at Angora and Moscow and to the British Middle East Office.

I have the honour to be
With the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

(Sgd.) RONALD CAMPBELL

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

COPY/JK.

Cairo, 28th December, 1946.

To H.E. The British Ambassador
In Egypt,
Kasr El Doubara,
Cairo.
-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:

Dear Sir,

In several occasions we had the honour to address to Your Excellency's Government our requests concerning the hundred of thousands Russian Moslem Refugees in Europe, where we asked, in the name of Humanity, not to deliver them to Moscow, enemy of our countries, enemy of our Religion and enemy of our National Culture.

In spite of our numberless attempts to save them from Moscovite claws, we could not find to-day in occupied Zones in Europe more than seven to eight thousand Refugees of whom about more than two thousand are camping in the United States' Zone in Mittenwald Area and the others in British and French Zones, not including in this total number those who, afraid of being handed over to the Russians, live in disguise. According to reliable sources, U.N.R.R.A. has ceased to help them, leaving our Refugees helpless and those who are in American Zone are now obliged to earn their daily life in a country which is entirely strange to them.

Our National Committee draws the attention of the British Government on the fate of these unfortunates who are extraordinarily tired defending their legal, National Cause to the last.

Human Rights, human consciences dictate us to help these unfortunates amongst whom are so many famous, useful elements for Democratic Causes.

We kindly ask Your Excellency to inform your Government from which we beg kindly to deign to keep the unity of our refugees in their respective Zones until such a day when in the near future Turkey or the Arab League will lead them into one of the Moslem Countries.

We beg to remain,

Your Excellency,

Yours faithfully,

for DJAFER SEIDAHMET
the CRIMEAN LEADER and
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE
of RUSSIAN MOSLEMS.

Arab Refugees.

# MINUTE SHEET.

Reference 6/1/47.

Mr. Yusuf A. Walishah Oralgherai who claims to be the representative in Egypt of the National Committee of Russian Moslems, delivered the letter within to me on 30th December. He told me that negotiations were at present proceeding between the Committee of whom he is the representative in Egypt, and the Arab League (Azzam Pasha) for these refugees from the British, American and French zones of Germany to come and settle in the Arab countries. Many of them, he said, were of the professional classes and could be of assistance in this part of the world. Return to Russia would mean death or starvation. Originally there were some hundreds of thousands of these Russian Moslem refugees who had retreated into Germany with the German forces (c.f. O.M's note at 274/7/46). Many of them had died, but according to Mr. Walishah's information there were now only seven to eight thousand in the British or American zones of Germany. He said that he had heard that they were being split up into small groups of fifty or so. What he asked was, that they should be kept together as a community in the hope that eventually they could be brought to the Arab countries.

I asked him how it was he came to represent Djafer Seid Ahmet, whom he said was president of the National Committee of Russian Moslems, and at present in Istanbul. Mr. Walishah told me that his father and mother had fled from Russia to Roumania after the last war. He himself (he looks about thirty), was sent by the Committee to Egypt to study Arabic in order to act as a liaison between the Committee and the Arab countries. His address in Cairo is: c/o Ibrahim Wasal el Turkistani, 85, Sharia Gohar el Kaied el Husseini, Cairo.

which is the seat of the Committee

RZ 4/1

4th January, 1947.

Mr. Ravensdale.

O.M.

Ag. Send copy of the attached letter to F.O. with covering despatch giving the substance of Mr. Bailey's interview of 4th Jan. above.

OTP.

RR 6/1

Write copy to Angora.

We had better ask Z.-G. what answer we should give to petitioners. Now Jan 6 Draft RZ 10/1

(1502) 28899/1063
1,500,000 9/39 JC&SLtd
Gp644/229
(REGIMINT)
CODE 5-34-0

[OVER

Arab Refugees.

6/1/47
Entes.

Cairo, 28th December 1946

To H. E. The The British Ambassador
In Egypt
Kasr El Doubara
Cairo
-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
2 JAN 1947
RECEIVED

1036/11/46.

Dear Sir,

In several occasions we had the honour to address to Your Excellency's Govt. our requests concerning the hundred of thousands Russian Moslem Refugees in Europe, where we asked, in the name of Humanity, not to deliver them to Moscow, enemy of our countries, enemy of our Religion and enemy of our National Culture.

In spite of our numberless attempts to save them from Moscovite claws, we could not find to-day in occupied Zones in Europe more than 7 - 8 thousand Refugees of whom about more than 2 thousand are camping in the United States' Zone in Mittenwald Area and the others in British and French Zones, not including in this total number those who, afraid of being handed over to the Russians, live in disguise. According to reliable sources U.N.R.R.A. has ceased to help them, leaving our Refugees helpless and those who are in American Zone are now obliged to earn their daily life in a country which is entirely strange to them.

Our National Committee draws the attention of the British Govt. on the fate of these unfortunates who are extraordinarily tired defending their legal, National Cause to the last.

Human Rights, human consciences dictate us to help these unfortunates amongst whom are so many famous, useful elements for Democratic Causes.

We kindly ask Your Excellency to inform your Govt. from which we beg kindly to daign to keep the unity of our refugees in their respective Zones until such a day when in the near future Turkey or the Arab League will lead them into one of the Moslem Countries.

We beg to remain,

Your Excellency,

Yours faithfully,

for DJAFER SEIDAHMET
the CRIEMAN LEADER and
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE
of RUSSIAN MOSLEMS

Mr. Bailey. 2/1

INDEX

Yusuf A. Walishah Orazgheri
85, Gawhar el-Kaid El-Huseini
Cairo

BRITISH EMBASSY
22 OCT 1947

1947

~~168/16/47~~
6/10/47

FROM.
F.O. 1960.

ARAB REFUGEES.

F.O. 1121/1151

22/OCT/47.

Last Paper.
9.

References.
9

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)
Copy Visa Section 24/10.

(Action completed.)
9/14/XI

(Index.)

Next Paper.

Mr Bailey (Minutes.)

I should have thought the F.O. could have sent us this reply without waiting 5 weeks to do so. To carry out the formalities laid down in this telegram will lead to indefinite delay but that is apparently normal in the case of visa applications for Germany.

~~Dep. Visa Section~~

Nothing can in any case be done about this until after Bairam so I will deal with this paper on Tuesday 28th October when I return.

RB 23/10.

Mr. Ravensdale
Back to me.

~~Registry~~
Meanwhile copy of this minute should go to Visa Section.

RB 24/10

Registry
Mr Bailey

See now Visa Section's note at -/11 to MFA.

RB 31/10

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

PM

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO RECEIVED

22 OCT.

6/10/47

CYPHER TELEGRAM (10) Copy No

From: FOREIGN OFFICE Despd: 2310 hrs, 22.X.47

To : CAIRO Decyd: 1040 hrs, 23.X.47

No : 1960 OTP Dated: 22.X.47

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

IMMEDIATE

Following from German General Department.

7/9. Your telegram ~~242~~ 2042. October 20th.

Visas can only be granted on authority of Combined Travel Board, Berlin, which grants entry to British, United States and French zones of Germany through military permit office in Europe. The board will require to know length of stay, itinerary and facilities required in the three Western Zones and should be informed whether applicants desire to collect visas at Paris or Rome M.P.O.

2. On receipt of the above information by bag applications will be telegraphed to Combined Travel Board whose answer will be relayed to you.

3. Combined Travel Board will be informed there is no Foreign Office objection to authorization of visas to enter British Zone.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

NOT DISTRIBUTED

23/10

File Number:—

(26493) Wt.44387/933 25,000 1/44 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.686

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
30 OCT 1947
RECEIVED

1947

6/11/47

FROM:
VISA SECTION.
16580.

28 OCT 47.

ARAB REFUGEES.

F.O. 141/1151

Last Paper.
10.

(Minutes.)

30/10 Mr Rendel

2 P.P.s

References.
6
7
9
10

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)
14/XI

(Index.)

Next Paper.
28

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

M. Saleh Mohd. Abou ROKAIK
and
M. Mohamed Abdel Aziz MOSTAFA.

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
30 OCT 1947
RECEIVED

With the Compliments of the

VISA SECTION.

7/6 Our letter V/8/161/16580 of 11.9.47 and your
7/7. telegrams 1870 OTP of 14.9.47, 2042 of 20.10.
7/9. and F.O.'s 1960 OTP of 22.X.47 refer. 47.
7/10. (forwarded to us under 6/10/47 of 24.X.47)

British Embassy,
Cairo. 28.10.47.

6/11/47.

VISA SECTION,
British Embassy,
19, Sh. Gameh Charkass.

16580

**N O T E**

The Head of the Visa Section, British Embassy, Cairo presents his compliments to the Consular Department of the Royal Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and requests them to be kind enough to refer to their Notes Nos. 437 and 438 addressed to the British Embassy, Cairo, dated 9th and 10th September 1947 respectively concerning applications for facilities to visit Germany in respect of -

M. Saleh Mohamed Abou ROKAIK
and
M. Mohamed Abdel Aziz MOSTAFA

both members of the Committee of Aid to Distressed Moslems in Europe.

Owing to constantly changing regulations governing the entrance of persons into the controlled zones of Germany, it was found necessary to refer these applications to the appropriate authority in London.

A reply from London has now been received, requesting detailed information regarding itinerary, length of stay, etc.

As this Section has not the personal addresses of the two applicants, it would be much appreciated if the Consular Department of the Royal Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs would request Mm. Rokaik and Mostafa to be good enough to call at the office of the Visa Section at the above address in order that these further particulars may be noted and forwarded to the proper quarter.

The Head of the Visa Section avails himself of this opportunity of renewing the assurances of his esteem.

M. HENDERSON

VISA SECTION OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY
28 OCT 1947
CAIRO

BRITISH EMBASSY

THE ROYAL EGYPTIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
(CONSULAR DEPARTMENT),

CAIRO.

28th October, 1947.

File Number:—

(26493) Wt.44387/933 40,000 1/44 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.686

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
30 OCT 1947
RECEIVED

1947

6/12/47.

From.

LE JOURNAL D'EGYPTE.

ARAB REFUGEES.

F.O. 141/1151

29 Oct 47.

Last Paper.

4

References.

(Minutes.)

30/10 Mr Ravensdale

M. return with the other available.

1/11

30/10

Dy: file for future reference?

1/11.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

M. with 1946 bks.

Registry Herewith 3/11

3/11

Jalaleddin Vlora Pasha, an Albanian friend of Nabil Abu Ghalia, told me that there stay still there were some 10,000 - 15,000 Moslem displaced persons in Europe and that Transjordan had offered, or might offer, to take about 3000 of them. They fled from the Russian advance westwards during the war. HE has just received a telegram on the subject

4/11

(Action completed.)

14/XI

(Index.)

Next Paper.

13

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
30 OCT 1947
RECEIVED

Enclosure
Pm
6/12/47. 29/10

"Le Journal d'Egypte": 29th Oct., 1947.

# Un appel de S.S. le Nabil Amr Ibrahim en faveur des réfugiés musulmans en Europe

De retour d'Alexandrie, à la suite de sa tournée en Europe où il a visité les réfugiés musulmans, S.E. le Nabil Amr Ibrahim a fait aux représentants de la presse la déclaration suivante:

« Ces réfugiés vivent dans la misère la plus complète. De plus, ils ont été remis à des Etats qui désirent les exterminer. C'est pourquoi, nous avons le devoir de nous occuper sérieusement d'eux et de ne pas nous contenter de leur envoyer des produits alimentaires et des cadeaux. Les Etats Islamiques doivent leur ouvrir leurs portes dans le plus bréf délai possible pour leur sauver la vie et assurer leur avenir.

« Malheureusement, notre pays est atteint depuis un mois de l'épidémie de choléra et tous les efforts de la nation doivent être dirigés contre ce fléau. Aussi, mon appel pourrait ne pas rencontrer une oreille attentive dans les circonstances présentes, l'intérêt de la nation devant avoir la priorité sur toute autre question. Cependant, nous ne devons pas oublier que les réfugiés musulmans d'Europe endurent, depuis deux ans et demi, des souffrances de toute sorte.

« Lorsque je les ai visités, j'ai appris d'eux que, pour la première fois, ils s'étaient permis d'espérer du secours, lors de la visite que leur avait rendue, il y a quatre mois, dans leurs camps de concentration, l'attaché commercial à l'Ambassade d'Egypte à Berne, sur l'ordre de S.M. le Roi.

« J'adresse mon appel aux nations islamiques les sollicitant de venir en aide à ces malheureux.»

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BRITISH EMBASSY CAIRO
4 NOV 1947
RECEIVED

1947

6/13/47

From

H.E.

3 Nov 47.

ARAB REFUGEES.

F.O. 141/1151

Last Paper.

12

(Minutes.)

Mr Bowlby:

4/XI

I would suggest this might be discussed with:

Mr. Penney of Civil Affairs Agency + Sudan Agent.

RWB 5/11

References.

(Print.)

O.S. ✓

H. of C. ✓

H. of A. 6 N

(How disposed of.)

Sent to Lt. Col Anderson 13/XI

I agree. I suggest our attitude should be neutral, at least initially, since the Egyptians themselves are wholly responsible for creating this problem of disposing of these refugees who have been brought to Egypt. The C.A.B. and S.G. authorities are quite capable of weighing the purely humanitarian aspect for themselves.

Hoff. ✓ I also agree pms 5/11 Rs 5/11

H. of A. 6 N

(Action completed.)

14/XI

(Index.)

Next Paper.

Mr. Penney is away for some time. I happened to see Major Greatorex and he suggested we showed him a note to C.A.A so that they could consult C.A.B at Fayed. This would be necessary as a matter of policy was involved. He added that a certain number of Yugoslavs had been admitted into Cyrenaica where they had formed a trading Company in conjunction with certain Cyrenaicans. Being members of the old Yugoslav Army in the Middle East they had managed to save a certain amount of money. Provided these displaced persons could be supplied with a modicum of funds so as not to be a charge on the administration, he thought there might be some chance of a small number at least being admitted. The Emir would have to be consulted but as these people were Moslems he was not likely to refuse, since he would gain kudos in the Moslem world by taking them in.

Before drafting however, I might have a word on the subject with Lt. Col. Anderson, the head of the C.A. Agency here.

/Meanwhile

Regibig

Mem to me to have pbs.
with record of Hitler's interview
with Nobel Prize Problem about
Moslem refugees from Europe.

— 6/13/47.

Rm
21/11

Please return to HE. a/a. 22/XI

now see 1/18.

MINUTE SHEET. Reference.....

Meanwhile however S.A may wish to see & comment in so far as the Sudan is concerned. I could discuss if he moved with it.

RB 7/11

Sudan Agent for obs.

back to me.

If there are difficulties in settling these people in Egypt, it is likely that the difficulties of settling them in the Sudan will be far greater. Perhaps our main purpose in handling this question should be to prevent it getting into the hands of a "stunt" organisation in the Sudan. I therefore think the best line would be first, to suggest that the climate and living conditions of the Sudan make it hardly worth considering, and, if that doesn't work, secondly to arrange for the Nabit's secretary to come and see me. If he persists, I should admit that Khartoum Province might offer some openings and offer to get the problem, with the details necessary to its consideration, laid before the Khartoum Province Council

~~R.B.~~

EOC
8.11.47.

Would you now take over this paper, if necessary in consultation with Mr. Ravensdale.

RB 10/11

Mr. Barclay.

I discussed the question of these D.P.'s with Col. Anderson of C.A. today. He was sympathetic to the idea of trying to settle any of these people, who had suitable qualifications, in Cyrenaica. If we write to him he will be glad to investigate the possibilities. He agreed that the Emir would probably welcome the opportunity of making the gesture of helping

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helping to solve the D.P. problem.

On the other hand Col: Anderson pointed out that the future of any settlers in Cyrenaica must be uncertain while the future of the country itself is in the balance and that any responsibilities, which we might undertake with regard to settlers, might easily be terminated in a year's time.

When we have heard from Col: Anderson we shall be able to write to the Wabil Amr Ibrahim.

Draft.

C. G. M. Maxwelly
11/11

Mr Ravensdale.

MINUTE SHEET. Reference 6/13/47

## Moslem Displaced Persons in Europe

The Nabil ~~Omar~~ Amr Ibrahim called today to tell me of difficulties ~~in~~ which he and his Committee for rescuing from Europe these people and disposing of them in the Arab world, had run into. In Egypt the problem had not been well thought out and as usual, while it had been attacked with a certain initial enthusiasm, there had been lack of energy when it came to tackling the practical arrangements. In other Arab countries, though promises to receive such people had been made, there had been diffidence in doing so when it came to the point, perhaps for fear of annoying the Russians; many of these people were on the lists of persons wanted by Russia and other Slav nations as so-called war criminals, but really as enemies of the present regimes.

There were only a hundred or two Moslem displaced persons in Egypt. 90 were adults - the rest women, children and babies in arms. Another thousand were expected, and the problem was to get even a few of the 90 adults settled somewhere and somehow before the new contingent arrived. There had been a suggestion to put these people to work on the land in Egypt. This was not possible for whereas the fellah could live on the four or five piastres which he earned, these people had been accustomed to better pay and conditions. Many of them had been brought up under Communist regimes, they had left because they did not like them, and it would probably make them turn Bolshevik "which would be very dangerous". A good proportion of the 90 in question were teachers, mechanics or had been lorry drivers and he wondered whether we could not help in finding them positions of this sort in Cyrenaica and the Sudan. They only spoke Turkish and their own Slav language. There were no doubt bad and good men amongst them. (They apparently figured on what the officials of the I.R.O. call a grey list), ~~but~~ the I.R.O. officials would be able to screen them for the authorities of Cyrenaica and the Sudan. * In this connexion he mentioned a Colonel Findlay or Findler (he was not certain of the name) who was functioning in Italy for the I.R.O.

* Mr Findlay per

I agreed to put his enquiry to the Cyrenaican Civil Affairs people, though I said that I could not encourage him to hope that anything could be done.

As for the Sudan, I said that I thought that any request to the Sudan should be made by both co-domini. He thought this unnecessary as the matter would merely be what he called a commercial affair. Moreover, when he put the matter to the Egyptian authorities, they had answered him as regards Cyrenaica, but ignored his suggestion as regards the Sudan. I explained the provision of Article 11 of the 1936 Treaty in respect of employment of Sudanese in the Sudan and that if, supposing there were no Sudanese qualified for given posts, we and the Egyptians were to waive our rights to the appointment of Egyptians or British, there would have to be a waiver by each co-dominus. He saw this, but I said I would make enquiries of the Sudanese on a personal basis for his personal information and he could then decide on the next step in the light of the Treaty obligations. I said

that I /.....

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1,500,000 9/39 JC&SLtd
Gp644/229
(REGIMINT)
CODE 5-34-0

[OVER

that I would suggest to the Sudan Agency that it might put itself in touch with his Secretary.

The Nabil ~~Omar~~ Amr Ibrahim seemed to think (in confidence) that there was a good deal in the nature of stunt in the Egyptian solicitude for Moslem displaced persons, a thought which had not been absent from our own minds!

RG.

3rd November, 1947

H.M.M.

H. of C.

O.S.

* * * * * *

Registry
No. 6/13/47

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

*Draft.*

Letter
to
Lt Col Anderson
Civil Affairs
Agency

SENT
14 NOV 1947

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

from
O.S.

Mr Beaumont-Nesbitt.
12/11
A.J.C.

PS. 13/11.

13 November 1947

Dear Anderson

The Nabil Amr Ibrahim called on the Ambassador recently to discuss the problem of the settlement of the Moslem displaced persons at present in Egypt, to assist whom he has set up a committee. He was anxious to discover whether there was any possibility of settling a number of these people in Cyrenaica.

There are at the moment about 200 Moslem displaced persons in Egypt, mostly from Eastern Europe: 90 of them are men and the remainder women and children. Another 1000 are expected and the Nabil is anxious to get some of the 90 adults settled before the new contingent arrives. A proportion of these 90 are teachers, mechanics and lorry drivers, but no doubt most trades are represented. However, they only speak Turkish and their own Slav language.

~~We are sympathetic to the Nabil's project to try to settle these people and we~~ The Ambassador would be grateful if you would investigate the possibility of settling any of them with suitable qualifications in Cyrenaica. ~~As soon as we~~ If we hear from you ~~if~~ the Nabil anything can be done and you can indicate what particular trades would be required, we will ask the Nabil for further details, ~~of these people~~, at the same time pointing out that the future of any settlers in Cyrenaica must be uncertain while the future of the country itself is in the balance; and that

/ any

any responsibilities which we may undertake towards them must be strictly limited.

Yours sincerely

pp. [illegible]

[illegible] T. RAVENSDALE

CFRB/PM
12.11.47

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

/LE

BRITISH EMBASSY,

CAIRO.

6/13/47

13th November, 1947.

Dear Anderson

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Yours sincerely

(Sgd.) V. RAVENSDALE

Lieut. Colonel J.N.D. Anderson,
Civil Affairs Agency,
8, Dar el Shifa,
Garden City,
CAIRO.

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File Number:—

(26493) Wt.44387/933 40,000 1/44 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.686

1947

6/14/47.

FROM.

MR. RAVENDALE.

30 OCT 47.

ARAB REFUGEES.

F.O. 141/1151

(Minutes.)

Last Paper.

13.

References.

427/82/47.

Mr Bailey.

5/11

For H.E.'s minute on interview see now at -/13.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

9/14/XI

(Index.)

Next Paper.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

Minutes.

6/14/47.

5 NOV 1947 RECEIVED

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Djelaldd'in Vlora Pasha, a Turco-Albanian, who is well-known to Sir Walter Smart, and whose father was formerly a Grand Vizir in Turkey, called on me to-day and said that Nabil Amr Ibrahim would very much like to have an interview with H.E. at his convenience.

Nabil Amr Ibrahim has recently done a tour in Europe in connection with a project sponsored by King Farouk for aiding Moslem refugees who, during the war, left their homes in Eastern Europe to avoid the Russian advance and whom it is now proposed to transfer to various Arab States owing to their difficulties in Europe where they still remain as Displaced Persons.

I believe the Arab League has also interested itself in the plight of these refugees.

I do not know whether Nabil Amr Ibrahim wishes to discuss this question with H.E., but in case he does, the above is the background. It is, however, more likely that he may wish to talk to H.E. about his visit to the F.O. a few weeks ago. (See 427/82/47 -).

Nabil Amr Ibrahim is ready to come at any time convenient to H.E. I suggest it would be a good thing if he could be received by H.E. Will P.S. kindly inform me, if possible before 10.30. a.m. to-morrow morning what day and time would suit H.E.?

(Saw Mr Harvey in Mr Harvey's R.)

30th October, 1947

P.S.

Will see him

RC 31/10

10.30 a.m. Monday Nov. 3rd as agreed

Mr. Ravensdale

P.T.O.

PAD - 31/X

Nabel Ann Ibrahim agrees.

P.S. PAD. 4/XI

R

31/10

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

File Number:-

(26493) Wt.44387/933 40,000 1/44 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.686

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
19 NOV 1947
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1947

6/18/47

FROM.

G. J. JENKINS.

DS(E) 390/1

ARAB REFUGEES.

F.O.1/121/1151

15 NOV 47.

Last Paper.

Mr Rae-Jones. (Minutes.)
19/XI
Mr Bardley & Sir. 19/11
C.F.M.B. 19/11
Mr Crawford 19/11

References.

Rec / 12 13.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

| (Action completed.) | (Index.) |
|---|---|
| Rec 26/11 | |

Next Paper.

29

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

W. 6/18/47.

H. of E.

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
25 NOV 1947
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Have we heard anything more about the European Moslem refugees brought to this country, about which Prince Amr Ibrahim spoke to me a week or two ago?

— 6/13/47.

RC. 19/11

Dup. mm 7/18.

O.S.

We awaited a reply from Civil Affairs Branch to our letter of 13th November in 6/13/47 requesting investigation of the possibility of settling some of these refugees in Cyrenaica. The time for any arrangements being

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[OVER

being made for their accommodation
by the Legislative authorities are
described in Mr. Jenkins' letter
of 15th Nov. in 6/18/47.

RM 20/11

HOC ✓ pmc 21/11
HTi
RC 24/11

6/18/47.

T.1 48649

BRITISH EMBASSY CAIRO
19 NOV 1947
RECEIVED

TOP SECRET

G J C C JENKINS ESQ
BRITISH EMBASSY CAIRO

No.DS(E) 390/1 ACP
15th November 1947

SIME GHQ MELF

F.H. Tomlyn, Esq.,
British Embassy,
Cairo.

Subject: Moslem refugees brought into Alexandria through the offices of the GAMIA MUSAADA EL FUQARA EL MUSLIMEEN

This association, headed by Prince AMR IBRAHIM, has sent food, clothes and financial help to Moslem refugees in Europe. After a short visit to Europe and after visiting various sites were these refugees were staying, the Prince returned to Alexandria bringing with him about 150 of them.

These refugees were kept in quarantine, where they still are.

A local committee has been formed and is acting under directives sent by the Ministries of the Interior and Social Affairs, and will look after these refugees.

The committee is formed by the following :

| | |
|---|---|
| Kaimakam MOHAMMED BAGHURI Bey | - Inspector CID |
| Bimbashi ZAHRAN RUSHDI Eff. | - Inspector Special |
| RASHAD SIRRY Bey | - Local director of Labour Office |

On receipt of instructions from the Ministry, this committee is now studying the question of suitable jobs to be given to these refugees. The Filature Nationale and Sebahi Textile factories in Alexandria have already been approached in this connection.

When the quarantine period is over, these refugees will be given the hospitality of Government asilums, Mohammed Aly at Ramleh and the other, Farouk al A[illegible] located at Sh. Abul Dardar, Labban district, Alexa[illegible]

O.V. Pass on to P.S. W.B. Emery

W. B. Emery

/HS

[illegible] 17/11 18/11 see 7/13.

File Number:—

(26493) Wt.44387/933 40,000 1/44 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.686

BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
20 DEC 1947
RECEIVED

1947

6/30/47.

FROM.

F.O. 899 (TO BMEO)
ADD. BMEO 899.
Rpt. Bagdad. (S)
Damascus (S)
Beirut (S)
Amman (S)

18 DEC 47.

ARAB REFUGEES.

F.O. 141/1151

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

Mr Bowker.
20/12
Please return with other papers including esp. H.E's Conversation the Amir Amr Ibrahim.
RG 22/12
7/13.

Please see now at -/31.
RG 1/1

References.

22.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)
16/1/48

(Index.)

Next Paper.

(29257) Wt.53881/1263 25,000 3/45 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

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BRITISH EMBASSY, CAIRO
20 DEC 1947
RECEIVED

5 copies.

6/30/47.

T E L E G R A M
I N.

FROM: FOREIGN OFFICE.
TO: B.M.E.O.

D.0155 hrs. 18/12/47.
R.1125 hrs. 18/12/47.

No.899.
18/12/47.
CYPHER OTP.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to B.M.E.O.Cairo Tel.899 of December 17th, and repeated for information Saving to Bagdad, Damascus, Beirut, Amman and Cairo Embassy.

Your tel.63 Saving.

Egyptian Ambassador approached us officially in May stating that it had come to knowledge of Arab States that a recommendation was to be submitted to powers occupying Germany for the extradition of Moslem refugees against their will, and asking in the name of the Egyptian Government that the extradition should be postponed till Arab States had reached a decision about affording asylum. We replied enquiring from what quarters this recommendation was expected and whether the Egyptian Government had similarly approached the other occupying powers. We further stated that we ourselves only repatriated by force persons against whom there was strong prima facie evidence of crimes against humanity or wilful collaboration with the enemy; and that we would welcome any offer to provide sanctuary for persons falling outside these categories. Correspondence is being copied to you by bag.

2. Egyptian Ambassador has not replied and we think approach now made to you provides a good opportunity for pressing Egyptians to tell us what they themselves are prepared to do in the way of offering asylum. Unless you see strong objection please therefore make their supplying of definite information on this subject a condition of your performing for Egyptian Government a task which appears to fall well within the competence of leading member of Arab League.

3. You will no doubt be letting posts concerned have copies of relevant correspondence with both sides in order that they may be fully briefed on our attitude to this question.

4. Wherever possible it should be pointed out to authorities concerned that continued failure of Moslem Governments to join I.R.O. is not making re-settlement of these refugees any easier.

DISTRIBUTION:

1. File.
2. Mr. Troutbeck.
3. Brig. Clayton.
4. Embassy.

VOP.

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